



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Marketing and
Regulatory
Programs

Animal and Plant
Health Inspection
Service

Veterinary Services

4700 River Road
Unit 38
Riverdale, MD
20737

Dr. Nelson Calcagno
Departamento de Protección Pecuaria
Servicio Agrícola y Ganadero
Avenida Bulnes 140, Piso 7
Santiago, Chile

Dear Dr. Calcagno:

We received the letter of July 19, 2002, from Dr. Hector Galleguillos Villouta, concerning the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) site visit to Chile, scheduled for August 5 to August 9, 2002. The site visit is one of the steps in APHIS' evaluation of Chile's request to be considered free of classical swine fever. The agenda that was provided is very helpful to the site visit team members.

Currently, the initial meeting is scheduled for August 5, 2002. We ask that the initial meeting not be scheduled before 11:00 a.m. to allow ample time for the site visit team members to travel from the airport to their hotel and check in.

As to items of discussion during the initial meeting, the site visit team would like to learn of Chile's emergency preparedness and response to recent animal and poultry disease outbreaks that have occurred in the country. Also, during discussion of the vigilance and control systems, it would be helpful if epidemiological records were available for review. At some time during the week, the site visit team would like to view a garbage collection facility. Our request can be accomplished by simply driving by a facility on any day that is convenient.

You inquired whether the entire team planned to visit all of the areas listed on the schedule. Except for the initial meeting, the team might divide into two groups. Each group could then visit separate areas or sites for longer periods to ensure complete coverage in the amount of time scheduled. Your suggestions on the most efficient way to accomplish this would be appreciated.

If you have any questions or need to make any changes to the agenda, please contact Dr. Charisse Cleare of our Regionalization Evaluation Services Staff, National Center for Import and Export, Veterinary Services, APHIS, U.S. Department of Agriculture,



APHIS – Protecting American Agriculture

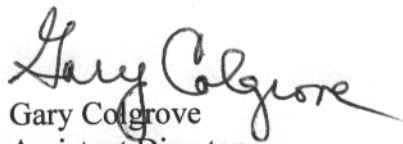
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Dr. Nelson Calcagno

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Unit 38, 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD 20737; telephone number: (301) 734-4928;
fax: (301) 734-3222; e-mail: Charisse.Cleare@aphis.usda.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gary Colgrove".

Gary Colgrove
Assistant Director
Sanitary Trade Issues Team